Abstract

Flexographic printing plates are produced by thermal development by a process in which an imagewise exposed flexographic printing element is developed by heating and removing the softened, unpolymerized parts of the relief-forming layer, the flexographic printing element used containing a styrene/butadiene block copolymer as a mixture with a plasticizer, and the proportion of butadiene which is present in 1,2-linked form being from 15 to 50% by weight, based on the block copolymer.